

employee plans news

PROTECTING RETIREMENT BENEFITS THROUGH EDUCATING CUSTOMERS

Internal Revenue Service
Tax Exempt and Government
Entities Division

A Publication of Employee Plans

Filing Relief for M&P and Volume Submitter Plans

The September 30, 2003 plan amendment deadline for employers with Master & Prototype (M&P) or Volume Submitter plans is almost here. We reminded employers of this deadline in News Release IR-2003-81, June 30, 2003 and recent editions (such as the [June 2003 Special Edition](#)) of the *Employee Plans News*.

Now, in [Rev. Proc. 2003-72](#), the IRS is providing a determination letter filing extension until January 31, 2004 for employers that adopt their plan amendments by the September 30, 2003 deadline. In addition, employers that fail to amend their plans by September 30, 2003 must request a determination letter with a \$250 compliance fee by January 31, 2004, in order to have the benefit of the extended remedial amendment period. Employers who don't take advantage of Rev. Proc. 2003-72 may seek relief under the Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System ("EPCRS") as set forth in [Revenue Procedure 2003-44](#).

Paul Shultz, Director of EP Rulings & Agreements, said, "We've heard from the benefits community about the pressure that the fast approaching deadline will cause on employers, especially small business owners. We're trying to encourage employers to act NOW while providing relief for those who need it most."

For further information, visit the Retirement Plans web page at www.irs.gov/ep.

Now Available: New Retirement Plan Correction Programs CD-ROM

The new Corrections CD-ROM is now available for order from the area distribution centers. The new CD provides information on why early identification and correction of plan problems is important and how to use the correction programs offered to plan sponsors by IRS, the U.S. Department of Labor and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. Some of the topics contained on the CD are:

- Maintaining Your Plan
 - 10 Reasons to Find and Fix Retirement Plan Mistakes
 - Common Qualified Plan Requirements
- Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System (EPCRS)
- U.S. Department of Labor Correction Programs
- Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Correction Programs
- FAQs regarding the Self-Correction Program, the Voluntary Correction Program, the Audit Closing Agreement Program, SEPs, SARSEPs, and SIMPLE IRAs

To order your copy, phone toll-free 1-800-829-3676. Or, you can order one from the Retirement Plans web site at www.irs.gov/ep by going to "Educational Services" under the "Topics" section and clicking on "Retirement Plan Correction Programs CD-ROM".